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BOROUGH OF GUILDFORD

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health  
for 1957

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector.



GUINDFORD, Boro. Annual report 1957.

Miss Wane 317 R.Sq. 9 FEB 1959 10 MAR 1959

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~~Dr. BARRETT~~

~~R.H. Hamett~~

# STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

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## *Medical Officer of Health :*

A. B. R. FINN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.

## *Deputy Medical Officer of Health :*

A. H. M. RICHARDS, M.A., T.D., B.M., D.P.H.

## *Chief Public Health Inspector :*

H. A. PERRY, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

## *Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :*

G. WALSHAW, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.

## *Senior Resident Meat Inspector :*

R. SUTTON, Cert.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

## *Housing Inspector :*

G. W. MATHEWS, Cert.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I. (to 30/11/57).

## *District Public Health Inspectors :*

F. SMITH, Cert.R.S.A.S., M.A.P.H.I.

K. H. JAMES, Cert.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I. (from 1/1/57 to 31/8/57).

## *Pupil Public Health Inspector :*

C. J. S. ELSTON (from 19/8/57).

## *Clerks :*

E. E. P. SZTENCEL.

MISS P. M. BUTLER.

MISS E. M. HARGREAVES.

MRS. P. S. DAVIES (to 14/11/57).

## *Public Analyst :*

D. D. MOIR, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

## FOREWORD.

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TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE  
BOROUGH OF GUILDFORD.

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MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1957.

The year 1957 was a memorable one for Guildford, seeing as it did the Celebrations associated with the seven-hundredth anniversary of the first Royal Charter of the Borough, and it is good to be able to report that it was a notably healthy year. Large crowds attended the various activities in the Borough, chief of which were the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, the Pageant, and the Royal Counties Show ; and no untoward incidents occurred to affect the health of the Borough. The thanks of the citizens of Guildford should go to the Red Cross and St. John organisations for the invaluable help they gave in providing First Aid facilities at these functions.

The year was notable for the low incidence of infectious disease, and unlike the previous year, Poliomyelitis was notable for its absence, and there was much less of the mild type of Dysentery prevalent in recent years.

The clearance of sub-standard houses, largely in the centre of the town, and of the huts at Merrow Downs, has proceeded, but it must be appreciated that the rate at which properties can be cleared must keep in step with the rate at which the occupants can be re-housed.

Improvements to the Sewage Disposal Works and to the water supply to the Borough have been proceeding.

The Guildford Hygienic Food Traders' Guild continued to foster interest and co-operation between food traders, the public, and the staff of the Health Department. The total membership has now increased to 60% of the food premises in the Borough. Matters dealt with included food poisoning, examination of susceptible foods, sale of fish in open-fronted shops, deep-freezing of foods, smoking in restaurants and other matters affecting the health of the public. In conjunction with the St. John Ambulance Brigade, a Food Hygiene display was included in an exhibit at the Royal Counties Show.

During the year, the Surrey County Council introduced an additional Welfare Centre in the Borough, at Bellfields, and this has proved most popular. 1,455 children received their vaccinations against Poliomyelitis under the County Council's scheme: owing to the unfortunate national shortage of vaccine, nearly twice this number still remained to be done at the end of 1957.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. B. R. FINN,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres): 7,322.

Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population mid-1957, civilian and members of the Armed Forces. Total 51,200.

Number of inhabited houses and flats (end of 1957), according to the Rate Books: 15,500.

Rateable Value on 31st December, 1957: £1,086,923.

Sum represented by Penny Rate (at 31st March, 1958): £4,160.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births—				M.	F.	} Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 14.41.
Total	...	...	...	408	353	
Legitimate	...	...	...	389	340	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	19	13	
Still Births—						} Rate per 1,000 (live and still births), 24.36.
Total	...	...	...	9	10	
Legitimate	...	...	...	8	10	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	
Deaths—						} Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 9.26.
Totals	...	...	...	245	276	

The **Birth Rate**, 14.41, shows a rise on last year's figure, which was 13.31. The rate for England and Wales as a whole was 16.1.

The **Death Rate** is unusually low at 9.26 (11.01 in 1956). The rate for England and Wales was 11.5: 70% of all deaths were over the age of 65. There is no obvious reason for the record low death rate, but it is a healthy sign and most noteworthy. The figure has never fallen below 10 before.

As is usual, diseases of the heart and circulation accounted for more deaths than any other cause, 272 out of a total of 521.

Cancer was the second largest cause of death, being responsible for 1 in 5 of all deaths. Cancer of the lung caused



26 deaths (22 in 1956) of which all but one were in males. Research continues into the factors causing the increase in lung cancer, but there is little doubt in the minds of medical men and women that excessive cigarette smoking is a factor.

Pneumonia was the third largest cause of death, but nowadays deaths from pneumonia are almost entirely in the elderly: only 5 were under the age of 65, whereas a quarter of a century ago pneumonia was a killer of many in the prime of life.

Infectious diseases were only responsible for 5 deaths, 4 from tuberculosis and one from meningitis, a most encouraging state of affairs.

**Infantile Mortality.** Of the 761 births during 1957, 22 babies died before attaining their first birthday, giving an infant mortality rate of 28.91, which is higher than the figure for England and Wales as a whole, which was 23.1.

19 of the the 22 deaths were in infants up to one month old. Prematurity caused 9 deaths, a larger number than usual: 7 were due to defects of development, 2 to pneumonia and the remainder to varying diseases.

The Infant Mortality Rate in Guildford this year appears in an unfavourable light largely because of the 9 deaths from prematurity. These 9 babies only lived on an average for less than 3 days, some only for a few minutes.

Much work is being done to try and ascertain the causes of premature births, which in turn result in far more infant deaths to-day than any other cause, and which show little fall in spite of much improved ante-natal care of the mother.

**Old People's Welfare.** With the proportion of old people in the population constantly increasing, the work of those who take an interest in, and active steps to help, the elderly is ever more praiseworthy.

The Report of the Guildford Old People's Welfare Committee for 1957 records the vast amount of work which this Committee does for the elderly citizens of Guildford, and it is an increasing amount. There will always be plenty of scope for voluntary work, and it is to be sincerely hoped that volunteers will always be available to do it: it must be ad-

mitted that people find it increasingly difficult to give their time and services in view of all their other present-day commitments.

The W.V.S. in Guildford, under their ever-willing and helpful Centre Organiser, continue to do grand work, not only for the elderly, but for families of all kinds and in all difficulties.

Meals on Wheels increased by one-third from 3,752 in 1956 to 4,928 in 1957, a splendid achievement: about 70 old people used the service.

The Night Attendance Scheme is a useful adjunct to other services, statutory and voluntary, and continues to serve others: the Day Sitters-in Scheme has met recruitment difficulties.

The help received from the Surrey Council of Social Service, the Rotary Club, the Good Samaritans, and many other organisations and individuals must not go unrecorded.

**Geriatric Social Worker.** This Social Worker, who is on the County Council's staff, is a most valuable link between the Old People, their General Practitioners, St. Luke's Hospital, and the Local Authorities. Her work is not confined to Guildford. She does much in conjunction with the Domiciliary Nursing Service and the Home Help Service, to keep old people "ticking over" in their own homes, the right place for the old to be whenever possible, where they can have their own belongings and their own familiar surroundings.

During the year, 211 new patients were visited in Guildford Borough; the total number of visits paid to these, former patients and relatives being 1,931 in Guildford.

**Family Planning Association.** This Association exists for the furtherance of knowledge and the giving of practical advice on the proper spacing of families. Its services are available to all. Advice can be given not only to married couples, but also to those about to enter matrimony, the latter being a valuable aspect of the work which may not be widely known.

Clinics are held at St. Luke's Hospital in the Out-Patients' Department every Friday from 6 to 7.30 p.m. Appointments

are required. Details may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary at 27, Harvey Road, Guildford (Telephone : Guildford 4235).

**Marriage Guidance Council.** The Marriage Guidance Council headquarters are now at 167a, High Street, Guildford : application for appointments may be made to the Appointments Secretary at 54, Warren Road, Guildford (Telephone : Guildford 5953). The aims of the Marriage Guidance Council are to help to restore to normal those marriages which are threatened with disruption by one cause or another. This invaluable work is highly confidential, and can only be undertaken at the direct personal request of the parties concerned. Advice is given also to couples entering matrimony.

**Laboratory Facilities.** In addition to previously existing facilities, the Public Health Laboratory began undertaking in 1957 the examination of material for Poliomyelitis Virus ; this is a complicated technique. The Director gives his help freely under all circumstances, and the Laboratory remains a great asset to South-West Surrey.

# Guildford Deaths in 1957.

	CAUSE OF DEATH				AGE AT DEATH				Over 65	TOTAL		Registrar General's TOTAL
					Under 1	1-25	26-45	46-65		M. F.	M. F.	
1	Tuberculosis Lungs	..	..	..	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
2	Other	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	Syphilitic Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6	Meningococcal Infections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	Cancer of Stomach	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11	" Lung, Bronchus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	" Breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13	" Uterus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14	" other area	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18	Coronary Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	Other Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21	Other Circulatory Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
23	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
24	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
31	Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
32	Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
34	All other Accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
36	Homicide and Operations of War	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Totals	..	..	..	11 11	7 2	8 9	54 46	160 205	240 273	245 276	

# Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality in the Year 1957.

	Rate per 1,000 Population.		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population.						Rate per 1,000 Live Births.
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Pneumonia.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
England and Wales	16.1	0.37	11.5	0.01	0.52	0.00	0.00	0.15	23.1
Great Towns	16.1	0.37	11.5	0.00	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.15	23.5
GUILDFORD	14.41	0.37	9.26	0.00	0.53	0.00	0.00	0.12	28.91

GUILDFORD: Abortions with sepsis—0.00 per 1,000 live births.



**Ambulance Work.** Ambulance work is under the Surrey County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade carrying out the work as agents.

The following figures summarise the duties performed during 1957:—

	No. of Members	Public Duty. Hours	Transport. Hours	Hospital and Clinic Hours	Miscel- laneous Hours
Corps and Ambulance Divisions ... ..	64	1,092½	4,807	8	1,365
Nursing Division ...	43	1,366	2,580½	390	98
Student Nursing Division ... ..	11	49½	—	—	—
Ambulance & Nursing Cadet Divisions, including probationers ... ..	175	824	—	28½	109
	293	3,332	7,387½	426½	1,572

First Aid cases treated on Public Duty ... ..	70
First Aid cases treated off Public Duty ... ..	234
Medical Comforts loaned ... ..	1,150
Civil Defence Members ... ..	11
National Health Service Reserve Members ... ..	2

Miscellaneous duties include Lectures, etc., to Girls' Life Brigade and Youth Movements, and also training of Civil Defence Personnel.

Transport duties include Train Escorts.

#### Transport Duties.

Five Ambulances, three Sitting Case Vehicles and one Mobile Dressing Station for Public Duties.

Number of patients removed:—

	Patients.	Mileage.
Brigade ... ..	38	1,274
For Surrey County Council ... ..	19,194	137,377
	<u>19,232</u>	<u>138,651</u>

Number of emergency cases ... .. 1,187

**Nursing in the Home.** This work is carried out by the Queen's District Nursing Association under the Surrey County Council. The work done by these excellent, highly-trained and hard-working nurses is as follows:—

### Children Nursed by Queen's Nurses.

	No. of Cases.	Visits Paid.	Transferred to Hospital.
Measles ... ..	1	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2	18	—
Influenza ... ..	12	130	—
Pneumonia ... ..	3	18	—
Chicken Pox ... ..	3	18	—
Other Diseases ... ..	73	445	1
	<hr/> 94	<hr/> 635	<hr/> 1

### Maternity Work.

Midwifery admissions ... ..	207		
Maternity admissions ... ..	57		
Ante-natal admissions ... ..	51		
Admissions transferred from St. Luke's Hospital ... ..	7		
	<hr/> 322		
Midwifery cases ... ..	165	Visits	3,417
Midwifery cases transferred from St. Luke's Hospital ... ..	42	„	428
Ante-natal ... ..	—	„	701
<b>General Work—</b>			
Cases ... ..	1,277	„	35,755
<b>Number of Ante-natal Sessions</b> ... ..			100
<b>Number of Attendances</b> ... ..			2,939
<b>Number of New Bookings—</b>			
District ... ..			179
Maternity Home ... ..			345

**Maternity Provision.** Fifty-four maternity beds are provided at St. Luke's Hospital. At this Hospital, a total of 1,152 births took place in 1957.

Mount Alvernia Nursing Home offers fourteen maternity beds, and a total of 146 births took place there.

At the ten beds of the Jarvis Home, a total of 256 births took place.



Thus of institutional births, there were 1,554 (570 residents and 984 non-residents). This gives a percentage of 90.71 of total births (residents and non-residents) and 78.19 residents only.

**Notification of Births.** During 1957, 386 male and 343 female births were notified to residents, a total of 729 (718 in 1956). There were 17 stillbirths (13 in 1956). In all, there were in Guildford 1,713 births.

Of the births notified, those of residents took place at the following places :—

St. Luke's Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	356
Mount Alvernia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Jarvis Home of the Queen's Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	174
Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	159
								—
Total								729
								—

**Clinics and Treatment Centres** (see inside back cover).

**Hospital Provision.** The South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board maintain two hospitals in Guildford, the Royal Surrey County Hospital, with 233 beds, and St. Luke's Hospital, with 385 beds available.

**Supervision of Nursing Homes.** Of the two registered Nursing Homes in Guildford, one is under the Hospital Board—the Jarvis Home of the Queen's Nurses—and one is exempt—the Mount Alvernia Nursing Home. Mount Alvernia offers 42 general and 14 maternity beds, and during 1957 dealt with 762 general and 148 maternity patients. A close liaison is kept with these Homes.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All infectious cases requiring hospital treatment are normally admitted to Ottershaw Isolation Hospital, though some go to Green Lane Hospital, Farnham, and occasionally elsewhere.

The incidence of infectious disease was average in 1957, being only about half that for the previous year: there were 486 notifications, compared with 924 in 1956, which was an exceptional year with a high incidence.

**Poliomyelitis.** Guildford, after an unlucky year in 1956 with 46 cases, was almost entirely free in 1957, having only one case of this disease, in an adult. It is highly probable that the outbreak in 1956 raised the general state of immunity of the population. Apart from the actual cases, many children and adults probably became infected with minimal amounts of virus insufficient to cause symptoms, but sufficient to produce some immunity.

The low incidence in 1957 cannot be ascribed to vaccination against the disease, as only 152 children were vaccinated in the Borough during 1956, and 1,455 in 1957. Approximately 1,700 children were registered and awaiting vaccination at the end of the year.

**Scarlet Fever.** There was rather more Scarlet Fever than usual, mostly in school children (31 cases). This is a mild disease nowadays, and eminently treatable, and is therefore not the cause of alarm or source of much consequent ill-health that it used to be before the days of Penicillin and other drugs. In fact, it is no longer considered necessary to exclude children who are Scarlet Fever contacts from school.

**Measles.** In Guildford, this disease tends still to be more prevalent every other year, though this is not so noticeable in many places as it used to be. With 303 cases, it was by far the commonest infectious disease, though less than half the number of cases which occurred in 1956. No cases required admission to hospital.

**Whooping Cough.** This is now the next commonest of the notifiable infectious diseases, with 74 cases in 1957. It is most dangerous during the second six months of life, and babies should be immunised before they are six months old. While immunisation against this disease may not confer complete immunity, it does reduce the severity of the disease, which may otherwise be serious in small babies, with fatal results or chronic ill-health afterwards.

**Dysentery.** After a large number of notifications in 1956, the incidence of this disease was low in 1957. Good codes of practice, as fostered by the Hygienic Food Traders' Guild, play an important part here, but once this disease appears in a community, it is notoriously difficult to control, largely because in many cases it is so mild that the sufferer may not need to seek medical advice and may unwittingly spread it to the household or outside.

**German Measles.** This disease is not notifiable, so its incidence is not known. But it is here mentioned on account of an important fact which needs to be as widely known as possible. German Measles (Rubella) occurring in the course of pregnancy, particularly during the early stages, can have serious effects on the developing embryo, and result in such defects as deafness and heart disease. It behoves all wise parents to try to see that their daughters get this disease before they grow up, rather than to try and prevent them getting it.

**Diphtheria.** Though Guildford had no cases of Diphtheria, cases of this disease still occur from time to time in this country, and are frequently severe in the unimmunised. It is only by continually urging Diphtheria Immunisation that this disease can be controlled: were cases of it to occur, the public would be more anxious for their children to be immunised, as is the case with Poliomyelitis.

During 1956, the latest for which figures have been published, there were 53 cases of Diphtheria with 8 deaths in England and Wales: these are record low figures. It only needs public apathy and a fall in the immunisation rate for this disease to rear its ugly head again in widespread fashion.

The immunisation statistics for Guildford show that the percentage immunised within five years of birth rose from 54 in 1956 to 69 in 1957. This is still below the national target of 75%: as soon as the present poliomyelitis vaccination scheme has caught up with the registrations, the emphasis must revert back to Diphtheria, which within the last ten years was more of a killer than Poliomyelitis has been, and equally a cause of severe paralysis.

The following table shows the number of children, in age groups, who received primary immunisation and the number of boosting doses given in the Borough during 1957:—

			Under 1 yr.	1-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total.
Primary	...	...	381	201	67	649
Boosting doses	...		—	22	270	292

**Vaccination.** During 1957, 357 infants under the age of one year were vaccinated: the right time for primary vaccination is at about 3 months old, as not only does this protect the infant, but it reduces the likelihood of reactions if vaccination is required later in life. Smallpox still occurs in this country, usually being brought in by air or sea travellers, and

fatalities occur every year. Smallpox vaccination in infancy is a wise step.

During 1957, there were 772 live births, and of these, 357 were vaccinated under the age of one year. The acceptance rate for infants in 1957 was 46.24 and in 1956 was 48.51. (The figure of 772 births is obtained by taking the Borough births for the last three months of 1956 and the first nine months of 1957.)

The following table shows the vaccinations carried out in the Borough during 1957 :—

0-1 yr.	1-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15+ yrs.	Total.
357	107	50	59	573

168 re-vaccinations were also completed.

**Tuberculosis.** Twenty new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified, 1 less than in 1956: there was one new non-pulmonary case. There were 4 deaths during the year, 3 from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and one from non pulmonary.

Patients with Pulmonary Tuberculosis are now living longer, and this accounts for the fact that there were more cases on the register at the end of 1957 (460) than at the end of 1956 (438).

The Housing Committee give special consideration in those cases where living accommodation is most unsatisfactory, though with the present housing shortage, they cannot help in every case, unfortunately.

Councillor Edward Jones, M.P.S., Chairman of the Health Committee, is also Chairman of the Guildford Borough Tuberculosis After-Care Committee. Grants are made to deserving tuberculous patients to assist them with food, clothing, materials for handicraft and other necessities, and are tremendously valuable. All cases are most carefully discussed and investigated to ensure that only those in genuine need receive help. There was a much improved response to the 1957 Christmas Seal Fund. Dr. Belam was the Honorary Treasurer during the year under review, but he has now handed over this duty after many years of good service, although he remains a member of the Committee.

**B.C.G. Vaccination.** 596 children were in the age group (i.e., 13-year-old school children), of which 364 accepted vaccination (61.07%). Preliminary Mantoux Tests showed 44

children positive (12.80%). Of those negative, 294 were vaccinated, giving a percentage of 49.33 of the age group concerned.

### Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1957.

							Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	12
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	303	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	74	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	20
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	8
Sonne Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	—
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Totals							486	45

### Tuberculosis: New Cases and Mortality during 1957.

Age periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
20—25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	2	3	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	*1
Totals	14	6	—	1	2	1	—	1

\* Case diagnosed and notified after death.



# Annual Report

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector  
for 1957.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

The Guildford, Godalming and District Water Board, which was formed on 1st October, 1952, is responsible for Guildford's water supply.

The Undertaking is responsible for an area of approximately 140 square miles in extent, containing a population of about 107,000 persons, including 53,000 population in the Guildford water area.

The water supply for Guildford Borough is derived from deep bore-holes in the chalk. The pumping stations are situate as follows: —

1. Josephs Road Pumping Station (3 bore-holes).
2. Millmead Pumping Station (2 bore-holes).
3. Dapdune Pumping Station (1 bore-hole).

All three Pumping Stations have functioned satisfactorily during the year.

During the year ended 31st December, 1957, the total consumption of water in the Guildford Borough water area was 1,114,300,000 gallons, an average of 3,052,877 gallons per day. The average daily consumption per head of population in the Borough water area was 57.60 gallons, domestic consumption being 47.57 gallons, the remaining 10.03 gallons being used for industrial and other purposes. The appreciable reduction in the industrial consumption is undoubtedly due to the closing down of the gas generating plant at the Guildford Gas Works.

Extensions to water mains in the Borough totalling approximately 0.97 miles were carried out during the year.

Work is also progressing on the first of two proposed new bore-holes at the Dapdune Pumping Station. If this bore-hole is productive, a second will be sunk and the two, together with the existing bore-hole, should ultimately produce a total of 3,000,000 gallons per day.

## WATER SAMPLING.

During the year 31 samples of drinking water for chemical analysis and 38 samples for bacteriological examination were taken from the undermentioned sources (these samples are taken by the Public Health Department and are additional to the routine samples taken by the Water Board): —



	Chemical Samples.		Bacteriological Samples.	
	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Ladymead Pumping Station	7	—	7	—
Millmead Pumping Station...	7	—	8	—
Dapdune Pumping Station...	8	—	7	—
Private Premises—				
Mains Supplies ... ..	9	—	12	2*
Deep Wells ... ..	—	—	2	—
	<hr/> 31	<hr/> —	<hr/> 36	<hr/> 2

\* These samples were taken on the same occasion from a house where a complaint was received. The water contained *b. coli* but no faecal coli. The contamination was localised, probably due to the use of a rubber attachment to the tap over the kitchen sink.

Observations are still being kept on the free ammonia content of the water supply from the Dapdune Pumping Station, which varied between nil and 0.83 p.p.m. (average content 0.446 p.p.m.).

This is an increase of 0.349 p.p.m. in the average free ammonia content, as compared with the results for last year. The analyst reported that tar acids and thiocyanates were not present in detectable amounts, and the water was considered suitable for public supply purposes.

## SWIMMING BATHS.

There are two Public Swimming Baths in Guildford: —

- (1) Castle Street Baths, owned by the Corporation. Eleven slipper baths also available at these premises.
- (2) Guildford Lido Open-air Swimming Pool, owned by the Corporation.

There are also two children's paddling pools, one at Stoke Park and one at Guildford Lido.

Both Swimming Baths and the Lido Paddling Pool operate on the break-point chlorination system, and a high standard of purity is maintained. The water in Stoke Park Paddling Pool is chlorinated during the summer season.

During the year the following bacteriological samples of swimming bath waters were submitted for examination: —

							Bacteriological Samples.	
							Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Castle Street Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	1
Lido Swimming Pool	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Paddling Pool, Stoke Park	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Lido Paddling Pool, Stoke Park	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
							18	9

The unsatisfactory reports refer to the presence of coliform bacilli and/or faecal coli, generally in very small numbers. Subsequent samples found to be satisfactory in each case, except for Stoke Park Paddling Pool, which is not on the break-point chlorination system. This paddling pool is frequently emptied, cleansed and refilled with mains water and was so treated after each unsatisfactory sample.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

**Sewage Disposal Works Extension.** The scheme for the extension of the Sewage Disposal Works referred to in the last Annual Report has been commenced. The work which is in progress includes the preliminary treatment works for the whole scheme, comprising screen and disintegrator, detritor and division of flow chamber. It is expected that the new extensions will be in use by the latter part of 1959.

Several complaints have been received from residents in the area concerning offensive smells from the existing works, and these conditions have undoubtedly arisen from the inadequacy of the present plant which necessitates the curtailment of the sewage treatment at certain times. It is hoped that when the new plant is in operation there will be no further cause for complaint.

**Drainage.** Tests were applied to 100 old drains (chiefly in conjunction with housing inspections) and 3 new drains; 5 existing drains were reconstructed and 13 drains freed from obstruction. The majority of new drainage installations are supervised and tested by the Building Inspectors.

**Cesspools.** The number of cesspools and private disposal plants in the Borough at the end of December, 1957, remained at 140. Cesspools are emptied by means of mechanical plant as and when required.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING — REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The following information is supplied by the Borough Surveyor:—

The system of refuse disposal is by incineration and tipping.

The weight of house and trade refuse disposed of during the year was 17,683 tons. The period of time elapsing between collections of domestic refuse averaged 9 days, and every effort was made to maintain this service.

During the year 34 dustbins were found to be defective, which were replaced in all instances; in one case the bin was supplied by the Council in default.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

### Number and Nature of Inspections Made.

	No. of Visits.
Complaints investigated (excluding rats and mice) ... ..	274
Nuisances found ... ..	220
No nuisances found ... ..	76
<b>Public Health Act.</b>	
Prospective Council house tenants, re cleanliness, vermin, etc. ...	187
Properties under notice ... ..	1,048
Infectious disease enquiries ... ..	80
Verminous premises, insect pests, etc. ... ..	128
Drains tested ... ..	103
Cesspools, etc. ... ..	13
Moveable dwellings ... ..	54
Schools ... ..	4
Places of public entertainment ... ..	10
Offensive trades ... ..	51
Keeping of animals (including Pet Animals Act) ... ..	20
Public conveniences ... ..	76
Common lodging houses ... ..	25
River pollution ... ..	10
Workplaces (including offices) ... ..	64
Swimming pools, paddling pools, etc.—samples taken ... ..	27
<b>Housing Acts.</b>	
Inspections under Housing Acts, 1936-1957 (first visits) ... ..	332
Inspections under Housing Acts, 1936-1957 (subsequent visits) ...	586
Inspections re Certificates of Disrepair (Rent Act, 1957) ... ..	81
Overcrowding ... ..	57
Requisitioned properties ... ..	140
Improvement grants ... ..	156
<b>Factories Act, 1937.</b>	
Factories—mechanical power ... ..	183
„ no mechanical power ... ..	19
Outworkers ... ..	12
<b>Food Premises and Sampling.</b>	
Licensed premises, clubs, etc. ... ..	29
Slaughterhouses ... ..	*187
Butchers' shops and cold stores ... ..	42
Fishmongers (wet and fried) ... ..	33
Cooked food premises ... ..	11
Cafes, restaurants, etc. ... ..	252
Bakehouses ... ..	48

	No. of Visits.
Ice cream premises ... ..	58
Dairies and milkshops ... ..	32
Other food shops, market stalls, etc. ... ..	618
Bacteriological milk samples obtained ... ..	152
Bacteriological rinses from milk churns, bottles, etc. ... ..	15
Bacteriological swabs taken from washed crockery, cutlery, etc. ... ..	27
Bacteriological ice cream samples ... ..	51
Bacteriological samples of other foods ... ..	107
Bacteriological water samples ... ..	38
Chemical water samples ... ..	31
Visits re Guildford Hygienic Food Traders' Guild ... ..	205

### Rodent and Insect Control.

Rats and mice infestations (first visits) ... ..	518
Rats and mice infestations (subsequent visits) ... ..	2,489
Insect pests ... ..	128

### Atmospheric pollution.

Visits re smoke control and nuisances ... ..	77
--	----

### Diseases of Animals Acts.

Visits re movement of animals, licences, etc. ... ..	210
Cattle Market ... ..	142
Interviews ... ..	415
Miscellaneous visits ... ..	653

\* Additional to attendances by Resident Meat Inspector.

### Abatement of Nuisances, etc.

	Work completed by Owners.	Work done by Council in default.
Choked drains, soil water ... ..	14	—
Choked drains, surface water ... ..	6	—
Drains requiring reconstruction, soil water ... ..	5	—
Drains requiring reconstruction, surface water ... ..	—	—
Defective soil pipes ... ..	5	—
Defective ventilation shafts ... ..	6	—
Defective manhole covers ... ..	5	—
Defective pans and traps of water closets ... ..	14	—
Defective w.c. cisterns and flush pipes ... ..	28	—
Defective waste pipes (baths, lavatories or sinks) ... ..	4	—
Defective sinks ... ..	3	—
Defective eavesgutters or rainwater pipes ... ..	25	—
Defective cesspools or cesspools to be abolished ... ..	1	—
Defective gullies ... ..	1	—
Offensive accumulations ... ..	2	—
Animals, poultry, etc. ... ..	2	—
Infestations by rats and mice ... ..	—	460
Verminous rooms and insect pests ... ..	5	184
Overcrowding ... ..	2	—
Insufficient or defective water supply ... ..	10	—
Defective dustbins ... ..	33	1
Defective yard paving ... ..	3	—
Rooms requiring redecoration ... ..	8	—
Defective chimney flues and pots ... ..	4	—
Damp walls due to external defects ... ..	10	—
Damp walls due to defective damp-proof course ... ..	5	—

	Work completed by Owner.	Work done by Council in default.
Defective fireplace or stoves ... ..	8	—
Defective windows and doors ... ..	17	—
Defective roofs ... ..	26	—
Defective brickwork or pointing ... ..	17	—
Defective floors ... ..	8	—
Defective plastering ... ..	20	—
Defective stairs ... ..	5	—
Absence of or insufficient accommodation for food storage ... ..	2	—
<b>Factories, Factories (N.M.P.) and Workplaces.</b>		
Without Abstract or Blue Book ... ..	1	—
Requiring lime-washing or cleansing ... ..	8	—
Sanitary accommodation—		
Insufficient ... ..	2	—
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	4	—
Contraventions of—		
Milk and Dairies Regulations ... ..	1	—
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 ... ..	52	—
Shops Act, 1950, Section 38 ... ..	1	—

## STATUTORY NOTICES.

### Number of Legal Notices Issued for Abatement or Abolition of Nuisances.

	Served.	Complied With	Done in Default.
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 39 ... ..	4	4	—
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 44 ... ..	1	—	1
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 45 ... ..	1	1	—
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 51 ... ..	1	—	—
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75 ... ..	6	5	1
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 89 ... ..	1	—	—
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93 ... ..	7	5	—
Housing Act, 1957, Section 9 ... ..	2	1	—
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, Section 12 ... ..	3	—	—
Guildford Corporation Act, 1926, Section 100	2	2	—
Factories Act, 1937 ... ..	1	—	—
	—	—	—
	29	18	2
	—	—	—

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

During the year, legal proceedings were instituted in the following cases:—

Act.	Offence	Result of Prosecution.
Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 2.	Sale of bun containing piece of metal.	Fined £10.
Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 8.	Sale of sausages unfit for human consumption.	Fined £15.



Act.	Offence.	Result of Prosecution.
Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 2.	Sale of loaf of bread containing nail.	Fined £20
Food and Drugs Act, 1955 Section 8.	Sale of bottle of milk containing iron filings and sand.	Fined £10, with £5 5s. costs.
Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 2.	Sale of wrapped loaf affected with mould.	Fined £5.
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, Regulation 3.	Failure to wear proper head-dress while delivering meat.	Fined £1.
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.	Sale of milk in unclean bottle.	Fined £5.

### DISINFECTIONS.

Steam disinfection of bedding, clothing, etc., is still carried out at the Council's disinfection plant, by arrangement, for adjoining districts in addition to the requirements of the Borough.

The disinfection plant is situated at the Destructor Works where there is a supply of steam under pressure available for this work.

#### Number of Articles Disinfected by Steam.

				From within the Borough.	From outside the Borough.	Total.
Mattresses	...	...		11	—	11
Blankets	...	...	...	30	—	30
Pillows	...	...	...	31	—	31
Sundries	...	...	...	75	126	201
				<hr/> 147	<hr/> 126	<hr/> 273
Number of rooms disinfected after infectious disease						
(within the Borough) ... ..						
						55
Number of rooms disinfected other than infectious						
disease ... ..						
						88

The amount of disinfection work, both in regard to premises and articles for steam disinfection, shows a considerable decrease for the past year. This is due to the reduction of cases of infectious disease and to the fact that terminal disinfections are not now carried out in many instances.

### DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES.

During the year 113 inspections of verminous premises were made. The following table shows the number of premises found to be infested and the reason for disinfestation: —

Reasons for Disinfestation.								Number of Premises.	Number of Rooms.
Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	8
Fleas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	55
Flies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	9
Wasps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	80
Ants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	19
Mosquitos	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Cockroaches	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Red Spiders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Moths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6
								<hr/> 113	<hr/> 184

In 136 cases where families were moved to Council houses within the Borough, an inspection was made of furniture and bedding to be removed. Infestations by vermin thus found were dealt with before removal took place.

In some instances precautionary spraying with an insecticide containing D.D.T. was carried out where the standard of cleanliness was doubtful.

## RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Statistics for the period 1st April, 1957, to 31st March, 1958.

					TYPE OF PROPERTY.				
					Non-Agricultural.				
					(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
					Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses).	All other (including Business Premises).	Total of Col. 1, 2 & 3.	Agricul- tural.
Number of properties in Local Authority's district ... ..					316	15,451	1,789	17,556	49
Number of properties inspected as a result of:—									
(a) Notification ... ..					6	368	20	394	1
(b) Survey under the Act ...					5	92	119	216	29
(c) Otherwise, e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose ... ..					137	1,343	1,906	3,386	230
Total inspections carried out— including re-inspections ...					282	5,270	3,360	8,912	332
Number of properties inspected (under Section 2) which were found to be infested by:—									
(a) Rats—Major ... ..					—	—	—	—	—
Minor ... ..					8	367	29	404	4
(b) Mice—Major ... ..					—	—	—	—	—
Minor ... ..					2	93	89	184	—



	TYPE OF PROPERTY.				
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses).	All other (including Business Premises).	Total of Col. 1, 2 & 3.	Agricultural.
Number of infested properties (in Section 4) treated by the local authority ... ..	10	460 (including 99 contracts).	118	588	4
Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments ...	48	523	485	1,056	22
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:—					
(a) Treatment ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural work (i.e., proofing) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Legal proceedings ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Number of “block” control schemes carried out ... ..	—	84	16	100	—

### Summary of Visits to Premises by Rodent Operators.

	Business Premises.	Dwelling Houses.	TOTAL
First visits ... ..	22	496	518
Subsequent visits ... ..	1,490	999	2,489

Two whole-time Rodent Operators/Disinfectors are employed on combined duties relating to disinfections, rodent and insect control and general public health duties. The present arrangement is working very well indeed, and an efficient and economic service is provided.

The majority of rodent infestations reported were of a minor character, and treatments carried out, mainly with “Warfarin,” were highly successful. The public of Guildford are very co-operative in reporting infestations in the early stages, thus enabling the speedy completion of treatments. Business firms still appreciate the regular servicing of their premises on a contract basis, and appear to be highly satisfied with the service provided at economic cost.

**Systematic Treatment of Sewers.** One maintenance treatment of sewers was carried out during the period 10th-15th April, 1957, and ten minor infestations were dealt with. Treatment of sewers was also carried out in conjunction with 100 “block controls.” There is no evidence of serious infestation in the Council’s sewers.

**Banks of the River Wey.** Treatment is also carried out annually along the banks of the River Wey which lie within the

Borough. All holes are treated with cyanide gas and are afterwards filled up. This routine treatment undoubtedly prevents many surface infestations of premises adjacent to the river banks.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

### FACTORIES, FACTORIES (NO MECHANICAL POWER) AND WORKPLACES.

#### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health made by Public Health Inspectors.

	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities ... ..	39	19	7	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies:—				
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938 ... ..	207	183	15	—
(b) Others ... ..	—	—	—	—
(3) Other premises under the Act (excluding outworkers' premises) ... ..	37	64	—	—
Totals ...	283	266	22	—

#### 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Number of cases in which defects were found:—

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Referred by H.M. Inspector.
Want of cleanliness ... ..	11	8	—	1
Inadequate ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ... ..	—	—	—	—
Absence of thermometer ... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:—				
(a) Insufficient ... ..	2	2	—	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	2	4	—	4
(c) Absence of artificial lighting ... ..	—	—	—	1
(d) Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to homework)	—	—	—	—
Totals	15	14	—	7

No prosecutions were instituted.

# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## PARTICULARS OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE BOROUGH.

	No. of Premises.	No. of Inspections.	Number Registered Section 16, Milk and Food and Dairies Drugs Regulations Act, 1955. 1949-54.	
Ice cream manufacturers ... ..	2	30	4	—
Ice cream distributors ... ..	173	109	173	—
Dairies ... ..	2	32	—	2
Milk shops (sealed bottles only) ...	13	13	—	13
Catering establishments (including factory and school canteens) ...	123	252	—	—
Licensed premises (including club premises) ... ..	61	39	—	—
Bakehouses ... ..	16	32	—	—
Flour confectioners ... ..	13	16	—	—
Sweet shops and mixed trades ...	92	74	—	—
Grocers and general stores ... ..	105	301	—	—
Butchers and cooked meat manu- facturers ... ..	33	52	21	—
Fishmongers and fishfryers ... ..	20	33	—	—
Greengrocers ... ..	59	243	—	—
Slaughterhouses ... ..	1	137*	—	—
	<u>713</u>	<u>1,363</u>	<u>198</u>	<u>15</u>

\* Additional to attendances by Resident Meat Inspector.

## MILK SUPPLY.

### Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Premises  
on Register  
31st. Dec., 1957.

#### MILK PURVEYORS WITHIN THE BOROUGH—

Number of Cowkeepers registered with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food ... ..	11
Number of local producers of—	
Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ..	10
Ungraded Milk ... ..	1
Number of Producer-Retailers ... ..	1
Number of Producer-Wholesalers ... ..	10
Number of Wholesaler-Retailers ... ..	1

### Milk (Special Designation) Act, 1949.

The following is a summary of Designated Milk Licences granted in 1957:—

**RAW MILK—****Tuberculin Tested Milk (Farm Bottled)—**

Supplementary Licences	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dealers' Licences	...	...	...	...	...	7

**HEAT TREATED MILK—****Tuberculin-Tested Pasteurised and Pasteurised Milk—**

Pasteurisers' Licences	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dealers' Licences	...	...	...	...	...	12
Supplementary Licences	...	...	...	...	...	3

**STERILISED MILK—**

Supplementary Licences	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dealers' Licences	...	...	...	...	...	12

**The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (M.S.2) Order,  
1954.**

The above Order was made on 1st October, 1954, specifying an area, including Guildford, within which the use of special designations in relation to milk sold by retail became obligatory. The effect of this Order restricts the grades of milk sold within the Borough to Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised.

# Bacteriological Examination of Milk—Analysis of Results, 1957.

Type of Milk	Methylene Blue R.T.				Phosphatase Test			Biological Test		Turbidity Test	
	Total Number of Samples Submitted	Number of Samples Submitted	Passed	Failed	Percentage Passed	Number of Samples Submitted	Passed	Failed	Percentage Passed	Number of Samples Submitted	Percentage Passed
Pasteurised .. .. .	49	49	49	—	100.00	49	49	—	100	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	59	59	59	—	100.00	59	59	—	100	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled)	36	32	29	3	93.7	—	—	—	—	8	100
Tuberculin Tested .. .. .	3	2	2	—	100.00	—	—	—	—	1	100
Sterilised .. .. .	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
										5	100
Totals .. .. .	152	142	139	3	90.63	108	108	—	100	9	100
										5	100



### Bacteriological Examination of Churn and Other Rinses.

In conjunction with the investigations of unsatisfactory bacteriological samples of milk and the routine inspection of dairies, 39 churn and bottle rinses were taken for bacteriological examination. With the exception of one churn and two series of bottles, all had bacterial counts of less than 50,000 per churn and 600 per bottle.

The interpretation of results for these rinses is in accordance with that adopted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme.

### MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM.

There are two registered manufacturers of ice cream in the Borough who manufacture on a small scale. There were also 173 retailers on the register, an increase of 4 over the past year. The number of itinerant vendors from areas outside the Borough appeared to be increasing.

Retailers of ice cream have made satisfactory provisions in accordance with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947 and 1952, and any unsatisfactory conditions found have been remedied.

Ice cream premises were kept under supervision during the year, 58 inspections being made and 51 samples taken for bacteriological examination.

The following table shows the result of the bacteriological examination of ice cream samples:—

#### Methylene Blue Test (number of samples submitted 51):—

Grade I. ( $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. +)	Grade II. ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ —4 hrs.)	Grade III. ( $\frac{1}{2}$ —2 hrs.)	Grade IV. (0— $\frac{1}{2}$ hr.)
39	7	5	nil
(76.47%)	(13.73%)	(9.8%)	—

#### Faecal coli (number of samples submitted 51):—

Absent.	Present.
47	4
(92.16%)	(7.84%)

In regard to the Methylene Blue Test, 90.2% of the samples submitted in 1957 fell within Provisional Grades I and II, as compared with 98.09% in 1956.

The bacterial standard of this popular commodity is remarkably high and the manufacturers are to be congratulated on the standard achieved.

Sixteen samples of "ice lollies" were submitted for bacteriological examination, one of which was reported to contain faecal coli.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF OTHER FOODS.

### Bacteriological Examination of "Susceptible" Foods.

During the year ended 31st December, 1957, 137 samples of "susceptible" foods (other than milk and ice cream) were submitted for bacteriological examination, including a number of foods taken in respect of suspected outbreaks of food poisoning. The results may be summarised as follows:—

	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Yoghurt ... ..	1	—
Pork Pies ... ..	2	—
Tinned Soup ... ..	2	—
Chocolate Swiss Roll (5) ...	4	1—Staph. aureus present in small numbers.
Fresh Cream ... ..	30	38—(See notes below.)
Sausage Casing (2) ... ..	1	1—Faecal coli isolated.
Ice Cream Powder ... ..	1	—
Dairy Cream Sponge Sandwich	—	1—Methylene Blue Test—decolourised in 1 hour. Faecal coli not isolated.
Boiled Ham (31) ... ..	6	25
	18*	1*
Crumbs for dressing Ham (5 tins) ... ..	3†	2—Staph. aureus isolated.
	—	—
	58	69
	—	—

\* These hams were re-boiled prior to sampling.

† Taken in connection with the boiled ham.

With regard to the samples of fresh cream, of 68 samples submitted 35 samples decolourised methylene blue in less than 4½ hours, 5 contained faecal coli and 25 contained staph. aureus. As I pointed out last year, there is no legal bacteriological standard for fresh cream, but, in view of the more widespread sales of this commodity (including deep frozen cream), it would appear to be more than ever necessary to establish such a standard at the earliest opportunity.



The samples of boiled ham and "crumb" dressing refer to an investigation of an outbreak of food poisoning originating outside the Borough, with two cases subsequently arising within the Borough. A large firm of grocers have hams boiled and prepared for sale at another branch outside the Borough. Notification was received that an investigation of cases of food poisoning occurring in the district where the hams were prepared had revealed the presence of *staph. aureus* in the cooked hams, and that 31 hams had been delivered for sale in Guildford. Of the hams examined in Guildford, 25 were found to contain *staph. aureus* and 6 were free from infection. The infected hams were re-boiled and subsequently all except one were found to be free from infection. The remaining ham was condemned and destroyed.

### **BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WASHED CROCKERY, UTENSILS, ETC.**

Twenty-seven series of swabs from washed crockery and utensils were taken at catering establishments within the Borough and submitted for bacteriological examination. The results may be summarised as follows:—

Very good	...	21
Good	...	1
Fair	...	4
Bad	...	1

It is pleasing to note the maintenance of satisfactory hygienic standards with regard to these utensils, and in this connection it can be safely claimed that great improvements have been achieved, partly due to the availability of detergents and sterilants, but also due to a more intelligent approach towards the menial task of "washing-up." Catering establishments are to be congratulated on these results.

### **FOOD HYGIENE.**

A full report on the activities of the Guildford Hygienic Food Traders' Guild, including a report on action taken under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, appears on pages 43 to 51.

### **SANITARY CONDITION OF PUBLIC HOUSES AND OTHER LICENSED PREMISES.**

During the year, 29 inspections were made concerning the sanitary condition of licensed premises in the Borough.

The improvement noted in recent years in connection with the sanitary condition of these premises was maintained.

Plans for alterations and improvements to premises and sanitary accommodation were submitted to the Licensing Justices in respect of a number of the older public houses.

### **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1954.**

There is one knacker yard in the Borough and a full inspection was made prior to the recommendation for the renewal of the licence. The licence to slaughter horses at this establishment has been withdrawn.

Seventeen slaughtermen were licensed to slaughter under these provisions, all of which were unrestricted licences. Twelve are employed at Guildford Slaughterhouse and five at the local knacker yard.

### **PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.**

Five applications were received during the year for renewal of licences in respect of premises used for the sale of pet animals. The premises are conducted in a satisfactory manner and all five licences were renewed.

### **DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS, ORDERS, ETC.**

In the Borough, the local authority's duties are carried out by the Public Health Inspectors, and as Guildford is an important centre, both in respect of the Cattle Market and Slaughterhouse, the duties undertaken under this heading are considerable, particularly when outbreaks of foot and mouth disease, swine fever, fowl pest, etc., occur.

At the Cattle Market, Inspectors are on duty on regular weekly market days, and during special sales, to enforce the requirements of the various Orders, etc., and to issue movement licences for animals as required. A close liaison is maintained between the department and the Veterinary Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and we are particularly indebted to them for their kind co-operation which enables us to carry out these duties effectively.

### **DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.**

The above Order came into operation on 1st June, 1957, requiring the licensing of all plants used for boiling of swill for pigs and poultry where the number of weaned pigs exceeds four and the number of poultry exceeds fifty. Inspections were carried out at thirty-four premises in the Borough where pigs and/or poultry are

kept and licences in respect of plant and equipment used for boiling waste foods were issued in twenty-two instances. The conditions relating to the Order were complied with.

### GUILDFORD SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

The Council continued to lease the Guildford Slaughterhouse from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food whilst negotiations for purchase by the Council were proceeding.

Slaughtering on the "line" system is carried out by the Council's own Contractors, who carry out their work most satisfactorily.

The total throughput for the year showed an increase of over 11,000 animals, this increase being mainly due to the larger number of pigs and sheep dealt with. The wholesalers using the Slaughterhouse have increased their trading areas to a radius of 40 miles of Guildford and one firm has provided a free meat delivery service. These factors have resulted in the increased throughput mentioned above.

The standards of hygiene observed at the Slaughterhouse continued to be highly satisfactory, and arrangements for the complete redecoration of the premises were in hand, to be commenced early in 1958.

**Meat Inspection.** The Council continues to provide whole-time 100% meat inspection service in the capable hands of Mr. Sutton, the Senior Meat Inspector. Assistance, when necessary, particularly after normal working hours, is provided on rota by the Public Health Inspectors.

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected and the condemnations at the Slaughterhouse during the year:—

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	TOTAL.
Number killed and inspected	7,309	695	2,695	18,073	20,232	48,404
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	7	13	4	7	34	65
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,194	184	11	145	3,042	5,576
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ...	30.25	28.49	.60	0.8	15.2	11.65

	Cattle exc. Cows*	Cows.	Cattle.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	TOTAL.
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	4	5	—	—	1	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	288	89	11	—	84	472
Percentage of number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	3.91	13.52	.36	—	.42	1.0
<b>Cysticercosis.</b>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	19	—	—	—	—	19
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	7	—	—	—	—	7
Generalised and totally con- demned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

It will be noted that there was a reduction of 4.8% (from 16.45% to 11.65%) in the number of animals found to be affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticercus bovis. This was particularly noticeable in regard to cattle (excluding cows), sheep and pigs, there being an increase in the number of diseased cows. The reduction in evidence of disease is undoubtedly due to the high quality of meat demanded by the meat traders and the consequent improved quality of animal slaughtered. One very pleasing feature was the marked reduction of parasitic conditions found in the livers of sheep, especially the absence of liver flukes. Most of the sheep slaughtered in Guildford are reared in the Home Counties.

Although the presence of virus pneumonia is still prevalent in pigs, producers appear to be taking active measures to clear their herds from this disease.

**Tuberculosis.** The figures show an increase of 4.75% in tubercular cows slaughtered, but this is mainly due to the effect of the Tuberculosis Eradication Area established during the early part of the year in the Southern and South-Eastern Counties. The majority of animals found to be reactors to the tuberculin test were sent to Guildford Slaughterhouse by Ministry Veterinary Officers. This area became an attested area on 1st October, 1957, with the introduction of the Tuberculosis (South of England Attested Area) Order, 1957. In spite of the increase in tubercular cows, there was an overall reduction in tubercular animals to the extent of 0.02%.

**Cysticercus Bovis.** There was no appreciable difference in the incidence of this disease. A little difficulty arose about the cold storage treatment of carcasses affected due to the closing down of the cold stores used for this purpose. Alternative arrangements have



been made to use private cold stores adjoining the Slaughterhouse, but these stores have a very limited capacity and space may not always be available when required.

There are no private slaughterhouses operating in Guildford, and the slaughtering conditions and meat inspection arrangements at the Guildford Slaughterhouse are of the best possible standard.

### UN SOUND MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Summary of articles of food condemned during the year: —

Article.	Number of Articles (Tins, Packets, etc.).	Weight in lbs.
Beef ... ..	—	67,097½
Mutton ... ..	—	1,490
Pork ... ..	—	16,914½
Veal ... ..	—	524½
Bacon ... ..	15	312
Pies ... ..	26	26½
Cheese ... ..	41	78
Cake ... ..	56	1
Fish ... ..	336	276
Fruit juices ... ..	17	15
Fruit ... ..	1,508	1,876
Jams, Marmalades, etc. ...	36	62
Meat (tinned) ... ..	509	2,234
Paste ... ..	2	½
Poultry and game ... ..	33	94
Sausages ... ..	20	211
Soup ... ..	63	47
Vegetables ... ..	460	416
Milk ... ..	33	26
Miscellaneous ... ..	139	182
	3,294	81,881½

#### Total Weight.

81,881½lbs., or 36 tons, 11 cwts., 0 qrs., 9½ lbs.

All condemned meat is sent to local factories for processing into fertilisers and animal feeding stuffs. Other condemned foods are destroyed by incineration.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

From information supplied by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, who is also the Sampling Officer appointed under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, the following samples of food and drugs were taken during the year:—

Nature of Sample.	Number Taken	Genuine	Not Genuine	Remarks.
Apples (strained) ...	1	1	—	
Aspirin Tablets ...	2	2	—	
Baking Powder ...	1	1	—	
Barley ... ..	1	1	—	
Beans in Tomato Sauce ... ..	1	1	—	
Beef ... ..	3	3	—	
Beer ... ..	2	2	—	
Bicarbonate of Soda...	1	1	—	
Bourn-Vita ... ..	1	1	—	
Bronchial Mixture ...	1	1	—	
Butter ... ..	2	2	—	
Calamine Lotion ...	1	1	—	
Cheese ... ..	1	1	—	
Chocolate Spread ...	1	1	—	
Christmas Pudding ...	1	1	—	
Cocoa ... ..	1	1	—	
Coffee ... ..	4	4	—	
Cornflour ... ..	2	2	—	
Cough Syrup ... ..	1	1	—	
Crab (dressed) ...	1	1	—	
Cream (sterilised) ...	1	1	—	
Curry Powder ... ..	1	1	—	
Dripping ... ..	1	1	—	
Embrocation ... ..	1	1	—	
Epsom Salts ... ..	1	1	—	
Essence Flavour, Vanilla ... ..	1	1	—	
Fish Cakes (frozen)...	1	1	—	
Fish Paste ... ..	1	1	—	
Flour ... ..	2	2	—	
Fruit Mixture, Washed Dried ...	1	1	—	
Fruit Salad in Syrup	1	1	—	
Fynnon Salt ... ..	1	1	—	
Ginger (ground) ...	1	1	—	
Glucose (powdered) ...	1	1	—	
Glycerine of Thymol (compound) ...	1	1	—	
Golden Raising Powder ... ..	1	1	—	
Gooseberries in Syrup	1	1	—	
Gravy Salt ... ..	1	1	—	
Gripe Water ... ..	1	1	—	
Ice Cream ... ..	1	1	—	
Indigestion Mixture ...	1	1	—	
Jam ... ..	2	2	—	
Jelly (table) ... ..	1	1	—	
Lard ... ..	1	1	—	



Nature of Sample.	Number Taken.	Genuine	Not Genuine	Remarks.
Lemon Curd ... ..	1	1	—	
Lemon Juice, Natural	1	1	—	
Lime Juice Cordial ...	1	1	—	
Liquorice Powder (compound) ... ..	1	1	—	
Margarine ... ..	2	2	—	
Meat Pie ... ..	1	1	—	
Milk, Pasteurised ...	59	58	1	Milk Fat 3.61%. S.N.F. 8.35%. F. point, 0.513 deg. C. 5% added water.
Mincemeat ... ..	1	1	—	
Mustard, French ...	1	1	—	
Olive Oil ... ..	1	1	—	
Orange Squash ...	1	1	—	
Paraffin, Liquid ...	2	2	—	
Peas ... ..	3	3	—	
Pilchards in Tomato	1	1	—	
Pineapple Juice ...	1	1	—	
Rice ... ..	1	1	—	
Rum ... ..	1	1	—	
Salad Cream ... ..	1	1	—	
Salt, Table ... ..	1	1	—	
Sauce ... ..	1	1	—	
Soft Drink Powder...	1	1	—	
Soups ... ..	3	3	—	
Spice, Mixed ... ..	1	1	—	
Sponge Mixture, Sweetened ... ..	1	1	—	
Sugar, Demerara ...	1	1	—	
Sweets ... ..	6	6	—	
Tea ... ..	1	1	—	
Tomato Juice ... ..	1	1	—	
Tomato Ketchup ...	1	1	—	
Tonic Elixir ... ..	1	1	—	
Vinegar, Malt ... ..	2	2	—	
Whisky ... ..	1	1	—	
Witch Hazel, distilled	1	1	—	Label should have indicated "B.P.C. 1949."
Totals ...	158	157	1	

## HOUSING.

Progress has been made with regard to the first part of the Council's Slum Clearance Programme. Of the 471 houses to be dealt with in the first five years, 224 are privately owned and 247 are Council owned (including 210 temporary huts).

The following table summarises the action taken during the year in respect of the above houses:—

Action Taken.	No. of Houses Represented.	No. of Families Displaced.	No. of Houses Demolished	Remarks.
CLEARANCE AREAS REPRESENTED—				
No. 5—Buryfields Lane ... ..	4	—	—	Awaiting confirmation of Clearance Order.
No. 6—Masons Row and Wiblens Row ... ..	11	—	—	Awaiting confirmation of Compulsory Purchase Order.
No. 7—Buryfields Buildings ...	4	—	—	Awaiting confirmation of Clearance Order.
No. 8—Bury Street ... ..	3	—	—	Awaiting confirmation of Clearance Order.
Houses included in Clearance Areas Nod. 1-4 inclusive (previously represented) ...	—	19	6	
Council owned houses ... ..	9	—	—	
Council requisitioned temporary huts (Merrow Downs) ...	129	56	56	
INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES—				
Represented ... ..	11	8	3	
Closing Orders made—8.				
Demolition Orders made—3.				
Undertakings accepted not to re-let for habitation—1.				

Despite the fact that the Council now have a total of 2,287 post-war houses, the waiting list of applicants is still very formidable. This number of houses is made up as follows:—

For letting, 2,178; for sale, 109. Total, 2,287.

Applications continue to be received at the rate of about 55 per month, and during 1957 there were 186 houses built for letting and 14 for sale.

### Improvement Grants.

Enquiries concerning improvement grants continue to be received, but not so numerous as in the previous year. Again, the majority of applicants were owner/occupiers or persons in process of purchasing for their own occupation.

Seventeen formal applications were received, sixteen of which were approved, and one refused.

During the year improvements were satisfactorily completed in thirteen instances.

The total value of grants approved during the year amounted to £2,279 1s. 8d.

### **Rent Act, 1957.**

The introduction of the Rent Act, 1957, caused a considerable amount of work in the department during the year.

The provisions relating to Certificates of Disrepair are very complex and confusing, especially to older tenants, and many have accepted rent increases without requiring necessary repairs to be carried out simply because they could not understand the procedure. Of the applications received, many applicants have listed unimportant defects whilst overlooking the more important items, and in such cases, landlords have been requested informally to attend to these matters also. The complicated procedure has resulted in an excessive number of inspections and communications and much time has been given to advising both tenants and owners.

Details of Certificates of Disrepair issued and cancelled during the year in accordance with the Act are given below: —

#### **Applications for Certificates of Disrepair—**

Number of applications received	...	...	...	...	...	58
Number of notices of intention to issue Certificates of Disrepair:—						
(a) In respect of some but not all defects	...	...	...	...	...	39
(b) In respect of all defects	...	...	...	...	...	17
Number of Undertakings issued by Landlords:—						
Number of Undertakings accepted	...	...	...	...	...	23
Number of Certificates issued	...	...	...	...	...	33

#### **Applications for Cancellation of Certificates—**

Applications received for cancellation of Certificates	...	...	...	—
Objections received from tenants to cancellation of Certificates	...	...	...	—
Certificates cancelled by local authority	...	...	...	—

## **HOUSING STATISTICS.**

### **1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.**

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	1,496
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	...	...	3,286
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts	...	...	332
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	...	...	918

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation (including 129 temporary huts) ...     | 171 |
| 4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... | 117 |

## 2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers ... | 131 |
|---|-----|

## 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

### A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... | 4 |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—     |   |
| (a) By Owners ...  | 4 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...  | — |

### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... | 22 |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—             |    |
| (a) By Owners ...   | 17 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...   | 2  |

### C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...                 | 3 |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...                    | 3 |
| 3. Number of dwelling houses closed on undertakings from owners not to re-let for habitation ... | 1 |
| 4. Number of unfit dwelling houses rendered fit—undertakings cancelled ...                       | — |
| 5. Number of Closing Orders made under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 ... | 8 |

### D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...  | — |
| 2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... | — |

### E.—Action taken under Ministry of Health Circular 2156—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Number of houses licensed for temporary occupation under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, Section 6 ... | — |
|--|---|

# GUILDFORD HYGIENIC FOOD TRADERS' GUILD.

**Annual Report for the Year ending 28th February, 1958.**

## MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

**Chairman : COUNCILLOR R. F. SPARROW.**

## Members of the Council :

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ex-officio).	COUNCILLOR MISS J. CARTER.
COUNCILLOR E. JONES.	COUNCILLOR G. BELLERBY.
COUNCILLOR W. HAINES.	COUNCILLOR E. ELLIS.

## TRADE REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. R. F. SPARROW	...	...	Butchers.
Mr. C. BREALEY	...	...	National Dairymen's Association.
Mr. D. C. CURWAIN	...	...	Caterers' Association of Great Britain (Surrey Branch).
Mr. S. W. CHRISTOPHER	...		Fried Fish Dealers and Wet Fish Dealers.
Mr. A. CROSS	...	...	Guildford & District Co-operative Society, Ltd.
Mr. G. EDWARDS	...	...	Multiple Traders (elected June, 1957).
Miss L. HIGGINSON	...	...	Schools Meals Service.
Mr. G. JORDISON	...	...	Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers.
Mr. S. A. KELSEY	...	...	ditto
Mr. E. MABY	...	...	Grocers and General Provision Stores.
Mrs. E. M. REAVELL	...	...	Guildford Townswomen's Guild.
Mrs. J. TOOVEY	...	...	Ice Cream Manufacturers and Distributors.
Mr. W. L. PARSONS	...	...	Sugar Confectioners.
Mr. R. L. WAUGH (Vice-Chairman)	...	...	Fruiterers and Greengrocers.

**Hon. Secretary : MR. H. A. PERRY.**



## **GUILDFORD HYGIENIC FOOD TRADERS' GUILD.**

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Guildford, and Members of the  
Guildford Hygienic Food Traders' Guild.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It is now ten years since the Guild was first established and I feel that the time is opportune for us to look back at what has already been achieved, as well as forward to what we hope to do in the future.

When the Guild was first formed in 1947, the country was shocked at the number of large outbreaks of food poisoning, and we in Guildford decided to prevent, as far as humanly possible, any similar outbreaks here. I would like to be able to say that the national position with regard to food poisoning outbreaks has improved as a result of the efforts of the food trades and local authorities, but I cannot do so. In fact, the number of outbreaks has increased from 2,431 in 1949 to 7,713 in 1956. Locally, however, we have not had any serious trouble at all, and we like to think that this may be due, in some measure, to the continued efforts made through the work of this Organisation.

In the early days the Public Health Department was chiefly concerned about bringing all classes of food premises up to a satisfactory standard of hygiene structurally, and at that time assisted many food traders to obtain licences to carry out necessary works. Later, an active programme of teaching the importance of food hygiene to food handlers (including housewives) was undertaken, which included lectures, demonstrations, films, exhibitions and visits to food manufacturers in other towns. By these activities, the work of the Guild became known, not only locally, but nationally and internationally, resulting in enquiries being received from hundreds of local authorities and other bodies who wished to start similar schemes. It would be entirely wrong to give the impression that all matters relating to food hygiene in Guildford have been put right. This type of work needs unrelenting attention at all times as it is possible for an employee to undo all the efforts his employer may be making by one single act of carelessness.

One of our main difficulties in regard to the teaching of employees is the ever-changing personnel at most food premises in the Borough, which results in much apparently wasted effort. It should

be remembered, however, that the knowledge given to the employee goes with him to his new employment.

There is no doubt that since the Guild was founded much valuable work has been done which has resulted in improved standards of hygiene in all branches of the food trades. The introduction of new legislation has done much to assist in this work and the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, have made it compulsory for traders to achieve the voluntary standards which were reached by our members several years ago.

With improved national standards our original codes of practice have become largely out of date, and your Advisory Committee has deferred the preparation of new codes until the proposed national codes of practice have been issued.

It will be appreciated that it is very difficult to maintain enthusiasm for a subject such as food hygiene over a long period, and some of our members may feel that we are not as active as previously. It must be remembered, however, that whilst our outside and social activities have had to be curtailed, there has been no reduction in the standards of hygiene observed in our food premises, and educational work amongst food personnel, school leavers and women's organisations has been continued.

We look forward in the future to the continuation of the work of the Guild by encouraging the maintenance and further improvement of hygienic standards by all persons engaged in the preparation, handling and distribution of food. To do this we must keep abreast of all changes in the methods employed by the various food trades. Already many requirements which were looked upon as revolutionary a few years ago are now accepted as common practice, and I have no doubt that there will be many further changes in the future which will have to be accepted in the light of progress. I appeal, therefore, for the continued co-operation of all concerned.

On your behalf I again express thanks to the Guildford Borough Council and to members and officers of the Advisory Committee for their continued support.

R. F. SPARROW,

Chairman of the Advisory Committee.

## TENTH ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Work of the Guild for the Year ending 28th February, 1958.

---

### Introduction.

I have the honour to present the Tenth Annual Report on the Guildford Hygienic Food Traders' Guild which has continued to operate with the support of its members under the auspices of the Guildford Borough Council.

During the past year, inspections and advisory work have continued, and generally speaking, the standards of hygiene maintained in our food premises are very good. There are, of course, exceptions to this rule, and in these cases, statutory requirements are enforced. In connection with the annual inspections of trader members' premises, it was necessary to draw attention to unsatisfactory conditions in 29 instances. These items were remedied immediately in most cases. Also during this period three prosecutions were instituted by the local authority against two trader members for contraventions of the Food and Drugs Act. One firm was prosecuted twice for similar offences, and membership of the Guild has since been suspended for a period of 12 months in this case.

Meetings of the Advisory Committee were reduced during the year to four quarterly meetings instead of the six meetings per annum held previously.

As stated by the Chairman, the legal provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations have generally caught up with the standards laid down in our voluntary Codes of Practice and we await with interest the national Codes of Practice which are to be issued by the Ministry of Health.

### Membership.

Eight new trader members have been enrolled during the year, four transfers of membership have been made in cases where businesses have changed hands and in five instances membership has been cancelled. In four of the latter cases, cancellation has been due to businesses closing down, but in one case, where a new proprietor had taken over the business, it was felt that the new owners were not at present suitable for membership.

The following table shows the present state of membership in relation to the various trades. The total membership represents 60.3% of the food premises in the Borough: —

	Number of Premises to which Guild applies	Number of Trader Members Accepted.	Number of Employee Members Accepted.
Ice Cream Manufacturers and Distributors ...	2	2	12
Dairies (excluding Milkshops) ... ..	3	2	54
Bakehouses and Flour Confectioners ...	18	8	23
Catering Establishments (including School and Factory Canteens) ... ..	94	61	530
Grocers and General Stores ... ..	103	69	203
Butchers and Cooked Meat Manufacturers	31	21	39
Fishmongers and Fishfryers ... ..	20	9	9
Greengrocers ... ..	33	14	23
Sugar Confectioners and Mixed Trades ...	46	25	205
	<hr/> 350	<hr/> 211	<hr/> 1,098

Of the remaining food premises belonging to non-members of the Guild it is only fair to state that in 66 instances a high standard of food hygiene is observed, but for various reasons the Managements of these businesses do not wish to become members. In 67 instances the premises are not suitable for membership, either because it is structurally impossible to comply with the requirements of the Guild, or because the day-to-day standard of cleanliness remains below that which is accepted for membership in spite of repeated efforts by the Health Inspector to raise the standard. It will be appreciated that there is a difference between the standard necessary to evade statutory action under the Regulations and the maintenance of a suitable standard acceptable for purposes of membership of the Guild. There will always be the type of trader who just manages to comply with the law, but who will never attempt to raise his standards of hygiene voluntarily as part of his duty to his customers.

I would again remind trader members of the advantages of exhibiting in a prominent position their membership certificates and/or plaques. Housewives in particular are encouraged to patronise food premises where such signs are exhibited, knowing that they can expect to receive goods which have been prepared and handled in a hygienic manner. The exhibition of these signs is important to the continued success of the Guild.

### **Food Poisoning.**

Twelve formal notifications of food poisoning (11 salmonella typhi-murium and 1 staph. aureus) were received during the year,



nine of these cases being notified by hospitals after admission. In these latter cases (whose ages ranged from 5 days to 2 years in eight instances) no evidence could be found that the infections had arisen through food consumed in the home. In two further cases it was impossible to establish the particular foods causing the trouble, no remnants of suspected foods being available for examination. In the remaining case, the trouble was due to consumption of boiled ham obtained from the same source as that previously referred to in the investigation of contaminated boiled hams.

In addition, investigations were also made into six suspected cases. In two of these cases the trouble appeared to be due to consumption of turkey or steak pie at a seaside resort, the two patients being members of a party of seventeen others on a day trip who were similarly affected. In the four remaining cases, the suspected foods were home-boiled ham (subsequently found to be unfit for consumption) and cream sandwich cake, but the strains of staph. aureus from faecal specimens and the suspected foods were of different phage types.

It is a pity that, for a variety of reasons, it is not always possible to identify the causes of these infections, and the need for prompt notification and investigation cannot be over-emphasised.

### **Sale of Fish in Open-fronted Shops.**

Guildford has now only two open-fronted fish shops in the Borough, the remainder having fitted closed fronts without recourse to formal action. It would seem obvious that, in the interests of hygiene, fish should be protected from contamination by dirt, dust and odours from the street whilst on display, but in two cases of legal proceedings recently taken in different parts of the country the cases were dismissed on the grounds of failure to prove harmful contamination. Traders who favour the open-fronted shop consider that trade is enhanced by customers being able to see (and handle!) the fish directly, but on the other hand traders who have fitted closed fronts report no loss of business, and in the majority of cases, the result has been an increased turnover.

It is hoped that in the near future, either the remaining fish traders will voluntarily make satisfactory provision for protection of fish on display, or that the Regulations will be strengthened to enable this provision to be enforced.

### **Frozen Foods.**

During recent months it would appear that a very rapid expansion has taken place, not only in the number of food premises of



all types dealing in frozen foods, but also in the wide variety of frozen food commodities sold. The greengrocer is now selling frozen meat; the butcher is selling frozen vegetables and cream cakes; and the small general shop is selling all kinds of frozen commodities, including fresh cream

Provided that due precautions are taken with regard to hygiene in the manufacture, packing and storage of these goods, they are reasonably safe, and there are no legal provisions to prevent specialist traders from dealing in all types of frozen foods. Dangers can arise, however, when such foods are contaminated before reaching the freezing stage; when goods are not maintained at the requisite temperature **at all times**; when consignments of foods are not sold in rotation and are not stored in the cabinets in the manner prescribed by the manufacturers.

Many of the small traders are ill-informed about the proper care and maintenance of frozen food cabinets, and about suitable methods of storage. There appears to be complacency about the safety of these goods, and it is a great pity that the booklet entitled "Quick Frozen Foods—Guide to Retailers" has not been more widely distributed and acted upon. This guide, or some similar publication, should be given to every frozen food distributor before he commences distribution of these commodities.

### **Smoking in Hotels, Restaurants, etc.**

In connection with the national campaign against lung cancer, there has been much adverse criticism of customers smoking in hotels, restaurants, etc., during the service of meals. Many non-smokers regard smoking as a dirty habit, and have the strongest objections to eating at tables in catering establishments with persons who are smoking.

The Advisory Committee of the Guild considered whether or not an approach should be made to members in the catering trade to set aside either special rooms or tables for non-smokers, and decided to ask the opinion of the Caterers' Association. The Association replied that its members felt it was impracticable to set aside special accommodation for non-smokers. Your Advisory Committee decided to draw the attention of caterers to this matter and to leave the question in the hands of the individual members to deal with as they think best. This is one of those matters which will probably be brought up again in the future through pressure of public opinion and we hope that caterers will give the matter the serious consideration it deserves. Many people think that if accommodation for non-smokers can be set aside in trains, something should be done whilst they are partaking of food.

As an indication of public interest in food hygiene and particularly with regard to smoking, a letter of protest appeared in the local press subsequent to a picture appearing in a previous issue showing two officials smoking whilst inspecting carcasses entered in a local show last year! The letter quoted the relevant section of the Food Hygiene Regulations in support of the protest!

### **Special Activities—Royal Counties Show, Guildford.**

In conjunction with the St. John Ambulance Brigade, a food hygiene display was included in an exhibit produced by the Association at the Royal Counties Show. The food hygiene display dealt with contrasting standards of hygiene in catering premises and was the centre of considerable interest by the thousands of visitors to the Show.

At this time, special posters and leaflets were distributed throughout the Borough via catering establishments and Women's Organisations.

### **Educational Activities.**

These included lectures and film shows for school leavers at the various schools where domestic science is taught. The utmost co-operation was received from Head Teachers and staffs and the talks were very well received. Several requests were made for similar arrangements to be made in the future and it is hoped to establish these talks as a regular feature at all senior schools towards the end of the summer term.

Talks and film shows were also given to a group of catering staff (before the restaurant opened), Women's Organisations, Domestic Science Teachers and a group of trainee Demonstrators employed by a well known firm of food manufacturers and distributors.

This valuable work should be extended, but unfortunately continued shortages of staff and pressure of other duties does not allow for an extensive programme.

### **Newsletters.**

The attention of trader members has been drawn to various important matters related to food hygiene by means of newsletters. Six of these communications have been sent out altogether and we find this to be a most useful form of communication which helps to keep our members in touch with the Organisation.

**Conclusion.**

Once again I would like to express our appreciation of the spirit of co-operation and goodwill which exists between the majority of the food traders of Guildford and the Health Department. This enables satisfactory standards to be achieved and maintained without serious difficulties. The continued practice of consultation between traders and Public Health Inspectors when any major alterations are being carried out, or when new businesses are about to be established, makes for better understandings and relationships.

I have no doubts whatever that much of this co-operative spirit emanates from the work of the Guild in the past ten years and this alone has made all the extra work involved very well worth while.

On behalf of the Officers connected with the Guild I would again express sincere thanks to members of the Council and the Chairman and members of the Advisory Committee.

H. A. PERRY,

Hon. Secretary.

# Summary of Repairs and Improvements in Food Premises, 1957.

Particulars of Work done.	Dairies	Catering Establishments	Bakehouses	Butchers and Cooked Food Premises	Sweet Manufacturers and Retailers	General Dealers and Fishmongers and Fishfriers	Greengrocers	Miscellaneous Food Premises, Vehicles.	TOTALS
New structures provided or extensive alterations and improvements .. .. .	—	11	—	—	1	1	2	1	16
Other structural repairs .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Provision of sanitary accommodation .. .. .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Cleansing and repair of sanitary accommodation .. .. .	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	18
Defective plasterwork and decorations .. .. .	—	10	2	—	1	1	3	—	31
Provision of wash hand basin or sink .. .. .	—	4	1	4	2	14	3	—	12
Constant hot water supply .. .. .	—	4	1	1	—	3	1	1	16
Provision of first aid equipment .. .. .	—	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	10
Dirty utensils, tables, equipment, etc. .. .. .	—	4	3	1	—	1	—	—	8
Improved food storage accommodation .. .. .	—	5	—	—	—	2	1	—	7
Accommodation for storage of outdoor clothing .. .. .	—	1	—	1	—	4	1	—	1
Overalls and head coverings for employees .. .. .	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	3
Provision of hygienic equipment .. .. .	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Provision of heating facilities in shop .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Floors repaired or relaid (and dirty) .. .. .	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	4
Storage of food less than 18" from ground .. .. .	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	3
Additional refuse accommodation .. .. .	—	2	1	1	—	2	2	—	8
Offensive accumulations removed .. .. .	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Improved ventilation .. .. .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Provision of "wash your hands" notices .. .. .	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	6
Smoking of employees .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Infestation of rats and mice (including food premises under annual contract) .. .. .	1	43	3	5	1	25	—	—	80



## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The Surrey County Council Clinics are as follows: —

### **10/12, Stoke Road, Guildford.**

Child Welfare: Wednesdays and Fridays p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation: School Children at School Medical Clinics. Pre-School Children at Child Welfare Clinics.

Eye: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays a.m. 4th Thursdays a.m., if required Fridays a.m. and p.m. By appointment only.

School Medical: Mondays a.m. (except during School Summer Holidays).

Speech, Orthopaedic, Ear, Nose and Throat, and Remedial Exercises: by appointment only.

### **49, Farnham Road, Guildford.**

Dental: by appointment only.

### **North Road, Stoughton.**

Child Welfare: Tuesdays p.m.

Dental: by appointment only.

Diphtheria Immunisation: School Children at School Medical Clinics. Pre-School Children at Child Welfare Clinics.

Orthopaedic, Ear, Nose and Throat, and Remedial Exercises: by appointment only.

School Medical: Mondays a.m. (except during School Summer Holidays).

### **St. Peter's Hall, Almond Close, Stoke Hill, Guildford.**

Child Welfare: Thursdays p.m.

### **Burpham Village Hall.**

Child Welfare: Wednesdays p.m. (Doctor 2nd and 4th only).

### **Church Hall, Onslow Village.**

Child Welfare: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays p.m.

### **Merrow Village Hall.**

Child Welfare: Mondays and Thursdays p.m.

### **Church Hall, Foxburrows Avenue, Westborough.**

Child Welfare: Mondays p.m.

The South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board Clinics are as follows: —

### **Chest Clinic, 64, Epsom Road, Guildford.**

Mondays and Wednesdays, 1.30 to 4 p.m., Fridays, 9.30 to 12 noon.

### **Venereal Diseases Clinic, Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.**

Males: Tuesdays and Fridays, 5 to 7 p.m.

Females: Mondays, 3 to 7 p.m., Thursdays, 9.30 to 11 a.m.



